

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 215439  
ORIGIN IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-05 ISO-00 AF-04 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY UNA:BJSHARP  
APPROVED BY UNA:JFTEFFT  
AF:KSMITH

-----021569 082348Z /70

P 082238Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215439

LIMDIS

FOL RPT NAIROBI 11571 ACTION SECSTATE 7 SEP 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 11571

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, UG  
SUBJECT: U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARDS UGANDAN EXECUTIONS

1. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CHIEFS OF MISSION RESIDENT IN NAIROBI  
BUT ACCREDITED TO UGANDA, I HAVE FOUND DEEP SENSE OF  
REVULSION WHICH MATCHES MY OWN AT PROSPECT OF MASS EXECUTION  
OF TWELVE UGANDANS ACCUSED OF PLOTTING AGAINST AMIN. AT MY  
SUGGESTION I AM CONFIDENT THAT PAPAL NUNCIO AND POSSIBLY SOME OTHER  
DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS MAY ATTEMPT QUIETLY TO INDUCE UGANDA  
GOVERNMENT NOT TO CARRY OUT EXECUTIONS. WHILE I AM MINDFUL  
OF DIFFICULTIES IN RAISING ISSUES THAT MAY BE REGARDED AS  
INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES, I  
FEEL THAT IN KEEPING WITH OUR STRONG SUPPORT FOR HUMAN  
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RIGHTS EVERYWHERE WE SHOULD EXAMINE WHETHER THERE IS  
ANYTHING WE COULD DO TO STOP THESE EXECUTIONS. WE ARE  
BOUND TO DEPLORE THE EXECUTIONS AFTER THE FACT; HOW  
MUCH BETTER IT WOULD BE TO TAKE POSITIVE STEPS WHILE  
THERE IS STILL TIME.

2. IT OCCURS TO ME THAT WE MIGHT TAKE ONE OR BOTH

OF FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

A. EXPRESS TO UGANDAN CHARGE IN WASHINGTON OUR CONCERN OVER THE PLANNED EXECUTIONS, POINTING OUT THAT THE IMPACT ON AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION CAN ONLY DO HARM TO OUR RELATIONS, STRENGTHENING ARGUMENTS OF THOSE WHO ARGUE FOR ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF UGANDA.

B. INSPIRE A QUESTION AT NOON BRIEFING ABOUT EXECUTIONS, TO WHICH DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WOULD RESPOND BY STATING HOPE THAT SENTENCES WOULD BE COMMUTED.

3. SINCE EXECUTIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, ANYTHING WE DO MUST BE DONE QUICKLY. PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS MIGHT ALSO BE HELPFUL, ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT THINK OF MANY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE OPINION MIGHT MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE UGANDA LEADERSHIP.  
LEMELLE

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXECUTIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**SAS ID:** 1342618  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARDS UGANDAN EXECUTIONS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PINT, UG, US  
**To:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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